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FURTHER PARTICULARS OF THE BATTLE OF CERRO GORDO.

The New Orleans papers received last evening contain many additional particulars in relation to Gen. Scott's last great victory at Cerro Gordo, the most interesting of which we transfer to our columns to-day, supposing that they will be more acceptable to our readers at the present moment than any other description of matter.

We copy, first, as being necessary to complete the narrative of events connected with this great achievement, the subjoined letters, which should have preceded those of Mr. Kendall that were published in our last paper:

PLAN DEL RIO, MEXICO, APRIL 16, 1847.

General Twiggs's division of the army reached this place on Sunday last, and Gen. Patterson's on Monday evening. Both are now encamped here in a delightful valley, on the banks of the Panna del Rio, or River of the Plain, awaiting the arrival of Gen. Worth's division and Gen. Quitman's brigade of the Alabama, Georgia, and South Carolina volunteers. General Scott arrived last evening, and we anticipate in a few days a hard battle. The Mexicans, to the number of about 20,000, to 15,000 men, with Gen. Vega, if not Santa Anna himself, at their head, are strongly fortified about three miles in our advance, and appear to be constantly engaged in making their position, if possible, still stronger. They have several batteries planted, and if they do not make a desperate stand when attacked, they must be a great deal of worse than I have supposed them.

Our present force here is not over 6,000 men, including Steptoe's, Wall's, and the howitzer batteries. The sappers and miners are busily engaged in cutting roads, and when our batteries are erected we shall give them "particular fits" to a vulgar purpose.

We are fifty-seven miles from Vera Cruz and thirty-three from Jalapa. Several volunteers have been wounded or killed in our march from Vera Cruz, having lagged too far behind the main body. It was, I assure you, hard work to the men while marching, and many a poor fellow dropped upon the road from complete exhaustion.

PLAN DEL RIO, APRIL 16—Evening.

The Mexicans, under Santa Anna, are occupying a chain of works along the road, the nearest of which is about a mile and a quarter from Gen. Scott's headquarters in a direct line. The road this side is cut up and barricaded, and every possible means of defence and annoyance has been resorted to beyond the first work there are three or four others, completely commanding the gorge through which the road to Jalapa runs—these fortifications on hills, and rising so as to defend one another. It is thought that Santa Anna has 20,000 men with him—the lowest estimate gives him 15,000—and with these he has twenty-four pieces of field artillery, besides some fourteen heavy cannon in position. Some of the prisoners and deserters from the enemy's camp even place higher estimates, both as to the number of men and guns.

To turn these different works a road has been partially cut through the rough ground and chaparral to the right; and, although the reconnaissance is as yet imperfect, it is still thought that a point near the enemy's farthest work can be reached. Gen. Twiggs, with his division, is to march at 8 o'clock to-morrow morning by the new road, and on the following morning it is thought the attack will commence on the works on this side. If Gen. Twiggs succeeds in reaching the rear of Santa Anna—and he will use every exertion—I do not see what is to save him. He is generally so enough to have plenty of holes out of which to escape, however, and, from the great difficulty of reconnoitering his position fully, he may have some means of escape here. The general impression now in camp is, that this is to be the great battle of the war; and the immense natural strength of Santa Anna's works would justify the belief.

The Mexicans are more on the alert than they have ever been before, and more bold in throwing out their pickets. Not a party can now move without being fired upon, and yesterday a soldier of the 7th infantry fell with no less than seven bullets in his body. It is said that Almonte is with Santa Anna, as also all the principal generals of the country.

Gen. Worth left Puento Nacional this afternoon with his division, and will be up during to-night. He started a little after 1 o'clock this morning, with near 2,000 picked men, determined to make a forced march through the night, and on the road that the attack upon the Mexicans works was not to commence as soon as anticipated, he returned to Puento Nacional, after marching a mile and a half. Capt. Pemberton, one of his aids, rode over here last evening after dark, and returned with the information that the attack had been postponed.

The wounds of Capt. Johnston are doing well. I regret to state that Gen. P. F. Smith is confined to his bed—utterly unable either to ride or walk. He has a violent inflammation of the right ankle and knee, resembling erysipelas, which, from neglecting several days when he should have remained in his close bed, has finally compelled him to lay up. I will write again to-morrow.

PLAN DEL RIO, APRIL 17—8 o'clock A. M.

Gen. Worth's division came up during last night and this morning, ready for anything that turns up. A section of the siege train, comprising two twenty-four pounders and an eight inch howitzer will be along this forenoon. A volunteer train is also close by, and is very much needed, as the army is nearly out of provisions.

Gen. Twiggs's division will march by 9 o'clock. The 1st brigade, composed of the 1st artillery, 2d dragons and Capt. Kearney's company of the 1st and 7th infantry, is under command of Col. Harney during the illness of Gen. Smith; the 2d brigade consists of the 4th artillery and 2d and 3d infantry, under Col. Riley, and to these must be added Taylor's battery and Talcott's mountain howitzer and rocket men, acting under the immediate orders of Gen. Twiggs. The latter company will probably have plenty of work on their hands, as this is just the country for their operations.

I have written this off so as to be able to send you an account of the operations thus far. In case any one is going to Vera Cruz, the road is now so much infested by small parties of the enemy that it is deemed imprudent for a single man to start, let him be ever so well mounted. If I have another chance to write to-day I shall improve it.

[The remainder of this series of letters was published on Saturday, the above not having been received.]

In the New Orleans Delta of the 2d instant we find the following general description of the battle, furnished by Capt. Hoopes, of the Topographical Corps:

On the arrival of the other division of the army at the encampment of General Twiggs, on the 16th of April, General Scott, after taking a reconnaissance of the enemy's works, determined to storm them. The position occupied by the enemy was regarded by them as impregnable, and truly to any other than American soldiers it must have appeared an insurmountable and impracticable undertaking to carry it by storm or take it by strategy.

The road from Vera Cruz, as it passes the Plan del Rio, which is a wide rocky bed of a once large stream, is commanded by a series of high cliffs, rising one above the other, and extending several miles, and all well fortified. The road then descends to the right, and, curving around the ridge, passes over a high cliff, which is completely enfiladed by forts and batteries. This ridge is the commencement of the *Terra Templada*—the upper or mountainous country. The high and rocky ravine of the river protected the right flank of the position, and a series of most abrupt and apparently impassable mountains and ridges covered the left. Between these points, running a distance of two or three miles, a succession of strongly fortified forts bristled at every turn, and seemed to defy all bravery and skill. The Cerro Gordo commanded the road on a gentle declivity, like a glacis, for nearly a mile. An approach in that direction was impossible. A front attack must have terminated in the almost entire annihilation of our army. But the enemy expected such an attack, confiding in the desperate valor of our men, and believing that it was impossible to turn their position to the right or left. Gen. Scott, however, with the eye of a skilful general, perceived the trap set for him, and determined to avoid it. He therefore had a road cut to the right, so as to escape the front fire from the Cerro, and turn his position on the left flank.

This movement was made known to the enemy by a deserter from our camp, and consequently a large increase of force under Gen. Vega was sent to the forts on their left. Gen. Scott, to cover

his flank movements, on the 17th of April ordered forward Gen. Twiggs against the fort on the steep ascent, in front and a little to the left of the Cerro. Col. Harney commanded this expedition, and, at the head of the rifles and some detachments of infantry and artillery, carried this position under a heavy fire of grape and musketry. Having secured this position in front and near the enemy's strongest fortification, and having, by incredible labor, elevated one of our large guns to the top of the fort, Gen. Scott prepared to follow up his advantages. A demonstration was made from this position against another strong fort in the rear, and near the Cerro, but the enemy were considered too strong, and the undertaking was abandoned. A like demonstration was made by the enemy.

On the next day, the 18th, Gen. Twiggs was ordered forward from the position he had already captured against the fort which commanded the Cerro. Simultaneously an attack on the fortifications on the enemy's right was to be made by Generals Shields's and Worth's divisions, who moved in separate columns, while General Pillow advanced against the strong forts and difficult ascents on the right of the enemy's position. The enemy, fully acquainted with Gen. Scott's intended movement, had thrown large bodies of men into the various positions to be attacked. The most serious enterprise was that of Twiggs, who advanced against the main fort that commanded the Cerro. Nothing can be conceived more difficult than this undertaking. The steep and rough character of the ground, the constant fire of the enemy in front, and the cross fire of the forts and batteries which enfiladed our lines, made the duty assigned to Gen. Twiggs one of surpassing difficulty. Nothing prevented our men from being utterly destroyed but the steadiness of the ascent under which they could shelter. But they sought no shelter, and onward rushed against a hailstorm of balls and musket shot, led by the gallant Harney, whose noble bearing elicited the applause of the whole army. His conspicuous and stalwart frame at the head of his brigade, his long arm waving his men on to the charge, his sturdy voice ringing above the clash of arms and the din of conflict, attracted the attention and admiration alike of the enemy and of our own army. On, on, he led the columns, whose front lines melted before the enemy's fire like snow flakes in a torrent, and staid not their course until, leaping over the rocky barriers and bayoneting their gunners, they drove the enemy pell mell from the fort, delivering a deadly fire into their ranks from their own guns, as they hastily retired. This was truly a gallant deed, worthy the Chevalier Bayard of our army, as the intrepid Harney is well styled. Gen. Scott, between whom and Col. Harney there had existed some coolness, rode up to the Colonel after this achievement, and remarked to him, "Col. Harney, I cannot now adequately express my admiration of your gallant achievement, but at the proper time I shall take great pleasure in thanking you in proper terms." Harney, with the modesty of true valor, claimed the praise due to his officers and men. Thus did the division of the gallant veteran Twiggs carry the main position of the enemy and occupy the fort which commanded the road. It was here the enemy received their heaviest loss, and their General Vasquez was killed.

A little after, Gen. Worth having, by great exertions, passed the steep and craggy heights on the enemy's left, summoned a strong fort in the rear of the Cerro to surrender. This fort was manned by a large force under Gen. Pinzon, a mulatto officer of considerable ability and courage, who, seeing the Cerro carried, thought prudent to surrender, which he did, with all his force. Gen. Shields was so fortunate in the battery which he attacked, and which was commanded by Gen. La Vega. A heavy fire was opened on him, under which the fort was carried with some loss by the gallant Illinoisians, under Baker and Bennett, supported by the New Yorkers, under Burnett. Among those who fell under this fire was the gallant General, who received a grave shot through his lungs, by which he was completely paralyzed, and, at the last accounts, was in a lingering state. On the enemy's right, Gen. Pillow commenced the attack against the strong forts near the river. The Tennesseans, under Haskell, led the column, and the other volunteer regiments followed. This column unexpectedly encountered a heavy fire from a masked battery, by which Haskell's regiment was nearly cut to pieces, and the other volunteer regiments were severely handled. Gen. Pillow withdrew his men, and was preparing for another attack when the operations at the other points having proved successful, the enemy concluded to surrender. Thus the victory was complete, and four generals and about 5,000 men were taken prisoners by our army. One of their principal generals, and a large number of other officers, killed.

The Mexican force on this occasion certainly exceeded our own. The Mexicans officers admitted that Santa Anna had 8,000 men in the lines, and 6,000, including 2,000 lancers, outside of the entrenchments. Gen. Scott's force was about 8,000, Gen. Quitman's brigade not having arrived in time to take part in the engagement. Gen. Ampudia was second in command of the Mexicans, and superintended the operations of the enemy. When the Cerro was carried he was seen retreating on a fine white charger, his hat falling off as he galloped away. Many of the Mexicans escaped by a bye-path which runs off from the main road between the Cerro and the fort carried by Gen. Worth. As to Santa Anna and Canizales, they retreated in time to escape by the main road. Their conduct was regarded as most cowardly. Some of the Mexican officers who were taken prisoners do not hesitate to attribute their defeat to the cowardice or corruption of Santa Anna. The force of the enemy was composed of their best soldiers. The infantry that fought so well at Buena Vista, all the regular artillery of the Republic, including several able naval officers, were present. Some of the officers whom Gen. Scott released at the capitulation of Vera Cruz, without exacting the parole on account of their gallantry, were found among the killed and wounded. A gallant young officer named Halzinger, a German by birth, who extorted the admiration of our army in the bombardment of Vera Cruz, by seizing a flag which was cut down by our balls and holding it up in his hand until a staff could be prepared, had been released by Gen. Scott without a parole. He was found among the desperately wounded at Cerro Gordo.

The enemy's loss, in killed and wounded, was about as large as our own; but, in addition to this, the loss of 6,000 prisoners and some of their best officers. Our army captured about thirty pieces of beautiful brass cannon, of large caliber, and mostly manufactured at the Royal Foundry of Seville. A large quantity of fixed ammunition, of very superior quality, was also taken. The private baggage and money chest of Santa Anna, containing \$20,000, was also captured. The latter was delivered over to the Pay Department. The volunteers who were employed in carrying the specie into camp cracked many a joke over the prospect of being soon paid off in Mexican coin and free of expense to Uncle Sam.

When our forces had carried the various positions of the enemy, and the road was cleared, Gen. Twiggs started in hot pursuit of the fugitive Santa Anna, and pressed close upon his heels. A strong position, five miles west of Cerro Gordo, fortified and defended by a fine battery of long brass guns, was abandoned by the enemy and occupied by our troops. Gen. Twiggs bivouacked within three miles of the lovely town of Jalapa.

In concluding our imperfect sketch of this brilliant achievement, we cannot sufficiently express our admiration of the extraordinary deeds of our gallant army and able General. Scarcely a month has elapsed since our troops, under Scott, landed on the enemy's shores. In that time a strong walled city has been captured, together with an impregnable fortress; a pitched battle has been fought under the most unfavorable circumstances, and against the most formidable natural defenses; twelve thousand prisoners have been taken, including some half a dozen general officers; five hundred splendid cannon, and an immense amount of munitions of war have been added to the national trophies. Truly, such results are glorious testimonials of the valor of our soldiers, and of the skill, gallantry, and perseverance of the accomplished General who led them.

DESPATCH FROM GEN. SCOTT.

The following interesting despatch from General Scott, has been received at the War Department, and officially published:

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY.

Plan del Rio, 50 miles from Vera Cruz, April 19, 1847.

Sir: The plan of attack, sketched in General Orders, No. 111, (published in Saturday's National Intelligencer), has been, with fidelity, executed by this gallant army before 2 o'clock P. M. yesterday. We are quite embarrassed with the results of victory—prisoners of war, heavy ordnance, field batteries, small arms, and accoutrements. About 9,000 men laid down their arms, with the usual proportion of field and company officers, besides five generals, several of them of great distinction. Pinzon, Jarro, La Vega, Noriega, and Ohando. A sixth general, Vasquez, was killed in defending the battery (lower) in the rear of the whole Mexican army, the capture of which gave us those glorious results.

Our loss, though comparatively small in numbers, has been serious. Brigadier General Shields, a commander of activity, zeal, and talent, is, I fear, if not dead, mortally wounded. He is some five miles from me at the moment. The field of operations covered many miles, broken by mountains and deep chasms, and I have not a report as yet from any division or brigade. Twiggs's division, followed by Shields's (now Col. Baker's) brigade, are now at or near the Cerro Gordo, and were the most successful. The advance, with good results, is, I learn, that part of the Mexican army—perhaps six or seven thousand men, who fled before our right flank carried the tower, and gained the Jalapa road. Pillow's brigade alone is near me at this depot of wounded, sick, and prisoners, and I have only to give from him the names of 1st Lieutenant P. Nelson, and 2d Lt. G. Giff, both of the 2d Tennessee foot, (Haskell's regiment), among the killed, and in the brigade 106, of all ranks, killed or wounded. Among the latter the gallant Brigadier General himself has a mortal wound in the arm, but not disabled, and Major R. Farquason, 2d Tennessee; Captain H. F. Murray, 2d Lt. Derby, topographical engineers, I also saw, as did the places, severely wounded, with which the enemy must be opposed. My duty is to sacrifice myself, and I will know how to fulfil it! Perhaps the American hosts may proudly tread the imperial capital of Aztec. I will never witness such an opportunity, for I am decided first to die fighting!

The momentous crisis has at length arrived to the Mexican Republic. It is as glorious to the fighting as it is infamous to the deserters who have fled from the battle. If by an enemy Mexico's capacity is as far removed from valor as from generosity. Mexicans! You have a religion—protect it! You have honor—then free yourselves from infamy! You love your wives, your children—then liberate them from American brutality! But it must be by action, not by vain entreaty nor barren wishes, with which the enemy must be opposed. The national cause is infinitely just, although God appears to have deserted us; but His will be accomplished when we present, as an expiation of our errors, the sentiments of true patriotism and of a sincere union. Thus the Almighty will bless our efforts and we will be invincible; for against the decision of eight millions of Mexicans of what will be the efforts of eight or ten millions of Americans, when opposed by the fist of Divine Justice!

Perhaps I speak to you for the last time! I pray you listen to me! Do not vacillate between death and slavery; and if the enemy conquer you, at least they will respect the heroism of your resistance. It is now time that the common sense should show itself. I have thought of you. Your sacrifice has sounded its approach! Awake! A tomb opens at your feet! Conquer a laurel to repose on it! This nation has not yet lost its vitality. I swear to you I will answer for the triumph of Mexico if unanimous and sincere desires on your part second my desires. Happy will be the first of those who could not see the unfortunate Santa Anna, if the destruction of that city may have served to infuse into the Mexican breast the dignity and the generous ardor of a true patriot. Thus will the country have been indubitably saved. But if the country succumb, she will bequeath her apoplexy and her curse to those egoists who were not ready to defend her. It is now time that the common sense should show itself. I have thought of you. Your sacrifice has sounded its approach! Awake! A tomb opens at your feet! Conquer a laurel to repose on it!

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA.
MEXICO, MARCH 31, 1847.

PREPARATIONS FOR DEFENCE IN MEXICO.

The Editors of *La Patria*, a Spanish paper published at New Orleans, have gathered the following intelligence from papers of the city of Mexico to the 10th of April:

In the *Monitor* of the latest date we find, among the resolutions presented to Congress by three members, (Cafias, Garcia, and Zubiate), and supported by thirteen more members, one in which it is proposed to remove that body to the city of Queretaro; and that a majority of one member will be sufficient for Congress to sit.

Senior Ortega proposed that the Executive should be invested with the necessary powers to adopt whatever measures it should deem proper for the continuance of the war with the invaders of the North; and that Congress should be removed to the city of Tlalpam.

Congress had passed a decree, which is published on the 10th, to the following effect:

1st. In order to carry on the war which our nation wages against the United States of the North, all the Mexicans capable of bearing arms are hereby summoned to enrol themselves immediately.

2d. The Government will publish the necessary rules and instructions in order to make effective the organization of the National Guards, according to what is established in part XIX, article 50th of the constitution.

3d. The Executive may dictate any measures which may be considered necessary in order to use all the arms and munitions which may be in possession of private individuals, and which may not be employed by the Police or National Guards; also for the use of arms, baggage, ammunition, and provisions, and any other articles or utensils which may be necessary for the fulfillment of this object, providing always the means of indemnification.

4th. The Government will establish stores of supplies for the subsistence of the national forces, wherever it will deem it convenient and necessary.

Articles 5, 6, and 7 provide the manner in which persons assisting with money or other means for this purpose should be furnished with documents and certificates, and stipulate the different payments allowed to persons enlisting either by the year or during the war.

A meeting of the principal citizens took place on the 8th of April, when they unanimously agreed to establish the "Comite Nacional" to aid the North American forces. These resolutions were made known to the Government and to Congress, and they had already commenced the formation of the respective bodies, in order to start immediately for the mountains, passes, and cliffs. Among the persons signing the protestations we see the names of many prominent lawyers, military and other public men. They have vowed the enemy that in invading our soil without the least regard to our rights.

FROM TAMPIOCO.

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE NEW ORLEANS TIMES.

TAMPIOCO, (MEXICO), APRIL 15, 1847.

In my last I alluded to the discovery of a conspiracy among the Mexican police of this place, and of the arrest and imprisonment of a number of the conspirators. Since which we have heard that the conspirators have been known to the American Commandant of this post, and the consequence is, that seven of the ringleaders, including the Alcalde, have been banished and given to understand if they return to this city, on any pretext whatever, they will be treated as spies and shot.

The "Policia de Tampico" have been abolished, with the exception of three, who have been detained in office to assist in the collection of market and other revenues, and a detail from the military, composing the City Guard, substituted in their place.

A private of company C, named Rufus Parker, was shot by the guard on the night of the 3d instant. He was under arrest and in the guard-house, and seized one of the muskets of the guard and threatened to shoot any man who attempted to lay his hands on him. After being repeatedly ordered to put down the musket and deliver himself up, and being in the act of firing on the guard, the officer in command ordered the guard to fire, which order was instantly obeyed, and he fell dead on the spot, a ball piercing his heart.

Six gentlemen arrived here a day or two ago from the city of Mexico. They say that Santa Anna's victory at Buena Vista was celebrated for three days in that city; that the Mexicans are flying to arms in every direction, some of them arming themselves with axes, spades, clubs, &c., and that Santa Anna has raised money from the Church and paid off all his troops. You can take these reports for what they are worth. Our regiment at present are enjoying excellent health. About fifty deaths occurred in it since we left New Orleans.

PROCLAMATION OF SANTA ANNA.

FROM THE NEW ORLEANS PICTURES.

We learn that Gen. Morales, who so gallantly defended Vera Cruz, and Gen. Landero, who signed the capitulation, were both immediately put under arrest by Santa Anna and ordered to Guanajuato.

The following is a translation of the most interesting document which has met our eye; the translation and original have been sent to us by Mr. Kendall. Our readers are requested to contrast the magnificent promises of this address of Santa Anna to his countrymen with "the lame and impotent conclusion" presented by his personal prowess at Cerro Gordo:

Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, President ad interim of the Mexican Republic, to his compatriots.

MEXICANS! Vera Cruz is already in the power of the enemy. It has succumbed under the influence of American valor, nor can it even be said that it has fallen under the impulses of its good fortune. To no chance be it said, we ourselves have produced this deplorable misfortune by our own interminable discord.

The truth is due to you from the Government; you are the arbiters of the fate of our country. If our country is to be defended it will be by you who will stop the triumphant march of the enemy who come against us. If the enemy advance one step more the national independence will be buried in the abyss of the past.

I am resolved to go out and encounter the enemy. What is life worth, enabled by the national gratitude, if the country suffers under a curse the stain of which will rebound upon the forehead of every Mexican?

My duty is to sacrifice myself, and I will know how to fulfil it! Perhaps the American hosts may proudly tread the imperial capital of Aztec. I will never witness such an opportunity, for I am decided first to die fighting!

The momentous crisis has at length arrived to the Mexican Republic. It is as glorious to the fighting as it is infamous to the deserters who have fled from the battle. If by an enemy Mexico's capacity is as far removed from valor as from generosity. Mexicans! You have a religion—protect it! You have honor—then free yourselves from infamy! You love your wives, your children—then liberate them from American brutality! But it must be by action, not by vain entreaty nor barren wishes, with which the enemy must be opposed. The national cause is infinitely just, although God appears to have deserted us; but His will be accomplished when we present, as an expiation of our errors, the sentiments of true patriotism and of a sincere union. Thus the Almighty will bless our efforts and we will be invincible; for against the decision of eight millions of Mexicans of what will be the efforts of eight or ten millions of Americans, when opposed by the fist of Divine Justice!

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Six gentlemen arrived here a day or two ago from the city of Mexico. They say that Santa Anna's victory at Buena Vista was celebrated for three days in that city; that the Mexicans are flying to arms in every direction, some of them arming themselves with axes, spades, clubs, &c., and that Santa Anna has raised money from the Church and paid off all his troops. You can take these reports for what they are worth. Our regiment at present are enjoying excellent health. About fifty deaths occurred in it since we left New Orleans.

CELEBRATION OF THE EIGHTH OF MAY IN WASHINGTON.

It was anticipated that the welcome intelligence received last Friday afternoon of the brilliant victory of General Scott at Cerro Gordo would give animation to the celebration in this city of Saturday evening, and cause a more general illumination than was at first contemplated. Such indeed proved to be the case, and now, that the brilliant spectacle has passed, it has become our duty to notice it in such a manner as is due to the occasion, with fairness and impartiality, omitting intentionally nothing that we had the pleasure of witnessing ourselves or that was brought within our notice by other eyewitnesses who have been pleased to impart to us the desired information. We may possibly omit to notice some exhibitions that are worthy of attention; if so, we shall endeavor to supply that omission in a future article.

And first, as the most interesting and attractive part of the celebration, we notice the grand fireworks and illumination at the Navy Yard. Of these we are confident we may say that they surpassed the anticipations which were entertained by any who heard of them.

The fireworks were indeed of unequalled brilliancy and splendor, such perhaps as were never before witnessed in our country. This estimate of their beauty is sustained by the opinions of gentlemen who have seen pyrotechnical displays of the highest order in Paris and other European cities, and who also witnessed the fireworks at our Navy Yard last Saturday night, for which our citizens are indebted to Mr. Coston, the United States pyrotechnist, who spared no pains to render the display worthy of the occasion, and whose success was in the fullest sense of the word complete.

One of the objects presented at this grand pyrotechnical display was a structure representing the Navy Yard gate, and presenting in letters of vivid light the names of those officers, military and naval, who have won imperishable renown for themselves and their country in the battles of Mexico. This exhibition was the most brilliant and successful evidence of the pyrotechnic art that was ever witnessed. The artificial stars which formed the names of those brave commanders, presented to the gaze of admiring thousands, seemed to rival the brilliant stars of the natural firmament.

The grand exhibition of fireworks was preceded by an unusually fine display of variegated rockets, whose beautiful and sparkling colors, all "bursting in air," were seen all over the city and miles distant in every direction. The Navy Yard district was generally illuminated, all the citizens seeming to vie with each other in adding to the brilliancy of the scene. From the residence of General Henderson, as well as others, even the scattered cottages of the vicinity, there was a universal blaze of light, all the windows being handsomely illuminated and several having in them appropriate transparencies.

An illuminated tree in Garrison street was one of the most interesting and admired objects at the Navy Yard. All the branches of this tree were hung with illuminated lanterns, presenting at a short distance a curious and very handsome object.

The fireworks commenced at nine o'clock, and continued about half an hour. At the close of the pyrotechnical display a large bonfire, consisting of one hundred tar and turpentine barrels, with other combustibles, forming a column forty feet high, was lighted up in the space between the Navy Yard and the Capitol. It is thought this lofty "pillar of fire" would be seen at a distance of twenty or thirty miles down the Potomac. It certainly shed an immense glow of light all over the city.

The number of spectators who witnessed this grand display at the Navy Yard was unusually great. It is thought by many who were present that such an immense gathering of people was never before seen in Washington. The most perfect order pervaded this great multitude during the whole evening. On a stage that was erected in front of the fireworks were noticed the Secretary of War, the Secretary of the Navy, the Mayor, some of the foreign Ministers, with their families, several military and naval officers, and a large number of ladies.

While these exhibitions were in progress at the Navy Yard, the citizens there, always proverbial for their public spirit and hospitality, opened their houses freely to the entertainment of those friends and strangers who honored them with a call. Especially was this hospitality manifested by Mr. P. Otterbach and Mr. Queen, of whose good cheer many persons partook liberally in the course of the evening.

It was matter of regret to many persons that were very desirous of witnessing the display of fireworks that they could not do so without losing the sight of the illuminations, transparencies, and other public demonstrations of joy in the western and central portions of our city. The illumination in these parts of our metropolis (and we say this with no intention of making an invidious comparison) was indeed much more brilliant and general than we had any previous idea of. It would be extending this article to an unreasonable length were we to specify every thing we saw even on 7th street and Pennsylvania avenue worthy of notice. But there were transparencies and sights in many other streets that were not only excellent but greatly admired.

We shall commence our description at the residence of the Mayor on E street, fronting the General Post Office. The illumination of the Mayor's dwelling was remarkably brilliant, the transparencies excellent, and in good taste. In the large circular transom over the entrance to the house, in a semi-circular illumination were the inspiring words "Cerro Gordo and Chihuahua," on a purple ground. On the window on the right of the door was seen a full length portrait of General Scott, surmounted by the inscription "Vera Cruz and St. Juan de Ulua." On a panel at the base of this picture was the following inscription: "5,000 prisoners, 5,000 stand of arms, and 400 cannons captured; 10,000 rations issued to the poor of the city. Courage adorned by humanity." Covering the left window was a full length portrait of General Taylor, with his arm resting on his white war-horse. On an arch above was inscribed "Palo Alto, Resaca de la Palma, Monterey, Buena Vista." On a panel at the base of the transparency was inscribed the following: "Santa Anna: I have 20,000 men, surrender. Taylor: I have 5,000; come and take me. He conquers the enemy; then gives 'aid and comfort' to their starving wound!" We learn that these transparencies had been some time in preparation by Messrs. O'Bryon and Lee, who deserve much credit for the taste and skill manifested by them in the execution of the work.

Passing from the Mayor's residence, we next come to the dwelling of R. S. Cox, Esq., on E street, which was brilliantly illuminated with transparencies in every front window, on which were inscribed the names of Taylor, Scott, Worth, Wool, Kearney, Mitchell, Weightman, Pillow, Quitman, Conner, Perry, Hunter, Stegman, Doniphan, and Fremont. Hendley's Hotel was also brilliantly illuminated and the windows covered with transparencies. One of these, which afforded a good deal of amusement to the spectators, representing a large plate of soup, had this inscription: "Another hasty plate of soup. Cerro Gordo."

Continuing along 7th street, which was in general well illuminated, we